

REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 13-18 remain pending.

In the Request for Continued Examination filed December 9, 2008, the Applicants requested suspension of action for a period of three months. That time period expires March 9, 2009, so that the present amendment is timely filed within the suspension period.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Office Action dated February 10, 2009, as being improvidently issued.

The present claims have been amended to clarify the expression of the various embodiments recited therein. The Applicants believe that the arguments set forth in the Reply filed December 9, 2008 are strengthened by the amended claims. Further, the claims have been amended to improve the language so as to avoid various minor informalities set forth in the putative Office Action. In the event of any deficiency in the claim language vis-a-vis the formal requirements, the Applicants' representative invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number below to discuss any further amendments that might be made.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

To the extent necessary, the Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger, Malur & Brundidge, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. KAS-187).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

/Daniel J. Stanger/
Daniel J. Stanger
Registration No. 32,846

DJS/sdb
(703) 684-1120